

REMARKS


In the Office Action, it was noted that the status identifier for each of the claims of the application had not been properly provided in the previous amendment filed August 24, 2005. In particular, claim 17 was noted as not being in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.121 and MPEP § 714. The status indicator for claim 17 has been corrected herein from "Withdrawn" to "Previously Presented." Entry of the Amendment filed August 24, 2005, consideration of the Remarks presented in said Amendment, and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Summary

It is submitted that the present amendment cures the deficiencies noted in the November 22, 2005 Office Action; and it is respectfully asserted that none of the documents cited in the March 24, 2005 Office Action, either taken alone or in combination, teach the claimed invention. Thus, claims 1 - 17, 22, and 23 are deemed to be in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. If any fees are required in connection with this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 50-2518.

Respectfully submitted,

Bingham McCutchen, LLP

By: 
William N. Hugnet
Reg. No. 44,481

Three Embarcadero Center
San Francisco, CA 94111-4067
Telephone: (202) 778-6150
Facsimile: (202) 778-6155

Date: December 20, 2005